



East Central Florida Fire Prevention Association



Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Volusia County Training Center- 3889 Tiger Bay Rd

Members Present

1. Sharon Shivers- Deltona
2. Beau Gardner- Port Orange
3. Lisa Nadeau- Deltona
4. Ajorie Bailey- Deltona
5. Howard Bailey- Ormond Beach
6. Tim Brown- New Smyrna Beach
7. Terry Griffiths- DeLand
8. Eric Hill- Wiginton Fire Systems Orlando
9. Jeff Humphrey- Edgewater
10. Chip Johnson- Volusia County School Board
11. Steven Lane- New Smyrna Beach
12. Fred Link- DeLand
13. Norman Medders- Daytona Beach Shores
14. Ken Mitchell- Volusia County School Board
15. Ken Mock- Wiginton Fire Systems Orlando
16. Sam Schaller- Deltona
17. Tom Smith- Wiginton Fire Systems Orlando

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Sharon Shivers, President at 2:10 PM

Meeting Minutes

Approval of October minutes with September 1-30 financial report. Motion made by Howland Bailey and second by Sam Schaller.

President's Report

- *FFMIA Conference Recap*
 - There is a new study coming out from the University of Miami focusing on cancer in fire inspectors and fire investigators.
 - If you are interested, please let me know and I can send you some information.
 - Our monthly meeting can count towards the required training hours needed for ISO.

- Our monthly meeting minutes/sign-in sheet can be used to validate the time.
- The information on classes for the NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 changes.
 - Moving forward with future code cycles they would like to provide at least six months' advance notice for upcoming changes.
 - Rulemaking for proposed changes to the next code cycle is already underway.
- There was some talk about trying to form a task group among AHJs and DBPR on how to get a better handle on mobile food vendors.
 - Currently there are no guidelines/regulations for the construction of them. You essentially can build it in your backyard.
 - DBPR as we know is very hands off, putting a lot more on us.
 - There is some push to try and put a little more onto DBPR.
- LP-gas pipe inspection was removed from the code.
 - It now would have to be cited under Chapter 1 for 3rd party inspections required.
 - Seminole County is keeping the requirement and citing accordingly.
 - We as a group need to decide if we want to continue enforcing it.
- Batteries
 - Sam Schaller advised the group that Zinc batteries are gaining popularity in the data center and hospital settings.
 - They are plastic and self-suppressing and meant to be used as a backup for power until the generator kicks on.
 - They are proving to be more costly than lithium-ion batteries, but cheaper to maintain.
 - Lisa Nadeau mentioned that FFMIA is interested in collecting/tracking data related to lithium battery fires.
- *FFMIA Central Florida Regional Director*
 - Christina Diaz with the Seminole County Fire Department is our new regional director for our area.
 - We communicated with that that we would like to work together more, and that communication is lacking.
 - We are also interested in more local classes since those also have been lacking in our area.
- *Upcoming Chiefs' Group Meeting*
 - I will be bringing up the food truck MOG which needs to be revised due to the new code cycle.
 - I will be bringing up interest shown with fire inspectors from other jurisdictions crossing over to help assist with food truck inspections/evaluations during large scale events.

- *Red Book*
 - There is strong interest in developing a county-wide red book like Orange County's.
 - We would include an appendix(es) for each municipality/jurisdiction on specific changes (i.e. turning radius, hydrant placement, a common book.
 - Chief Allen was going to push out the Orange County Red Book for the Chiefs to look over, so will follow up on that.

Vice-President's Report

- *Jewelry/Pawn Shops*
 - How does everyone handle the 20lb cylinders and LP-gas torches? Do you require them to comply with NFPA 58?
 - The consensus of the group seemed to not be overly concerned with their use if it is minimal and not storing in excess quantities.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

- *Financial reports for October 1-31*
 - Checking- **\$5,992.50**
 - Deposits- nothing to report.
 - Expenses- nothing to report.
- *Savings- **\$1,000.73***
 - Deposits- nothing to report.
 - Expenses- nothing to report.

Important Notes:

- *Sign-in sheets*
 - Please do not forget to sign-in on both sheets (ECFFPA and VCFR)
- *2024 Annual Membership Dues/Notices*
 - Invoices will be sent out next month.
- *Supplies*
 - Still waiting for sales to purchase supplies approved in January 2022.
 - Was previously approved to purchase an external hard drive for the computer/files and a 3-ring binder with dividers, etc. Richard Beauregard reminded the group that we voted last year to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to purchase supplies as needed.
 - Tossed out the idea of designing/purchasing challenge coins to hand out to guest speakers and retirees.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

Chip Johnson

- *BDA Grid Testing*
 - Currently working on BDAs at Deltona High School, Pine Ridge High School and University High School.
 - Fred Link advised them to be cautious with the contractors they use. While they can install the BDA. They may not be licensed to connect it to the fire alarm which would require a fire alarm permit and contractor.
 - Chip advised they are continuing to move forward with the BDAs where required and not waiting on the P25 upgrade.
 - All new construction gets the infrastructure put into place just as a precaution should one ever be needed down the road.

New Business

Tom Smith

- *Hydrants*
 - ISO requires a two-hydrant flow test, but NFPA 25 only requires one hydrant flow. Would like some clarity on what each jurisdiction requires.
 - NFPA 25 requires that hydrants be opened, and water run clear for a minimum of one minute and flow tests required every five years. Would like some clarity on what each jurisdiction requires.
 - Color coding fire hydrants based on flow, to include what color each jurisdiction wants to identify private and public hydrants.
- *3rd Party ITM Reporting*
 - Needs to know what jurisdictions require this since there is a cost factor associated. Also believes the Red Book would provide clarity on this.

Believes the Red Book will help address all these items.

Presentation

None

Roundtable

Sharon Shivers

- *Zoll*
 - Chief Snyder advised that Chief Lariscy would like to attend a monthly meeting to put on a presentation on what Edgewater has developed regarding the Fire Inspection portal.
 - I will follow up on this after the first of the year.

- Fred Link suggested bringing Zoll on board now, rather than later.
- Beau Gardner indicated that he created a short list for the firefighters to use in Zoll when conducting a fire inspection for a food truck. They do not use the 3-page form that was created.

○ *Luncheon*

- We will host our annual luncheon on December 12th from 11 am- 1 pm at Hidden Treasures in Port Orange. This will be in lieu of our monthly meeting.

Ken Mitchell

○ *Holiday Decorations*

- Teachers may decorate but are informed that the decorations must be removed by mid-January.

○ *P25/BDA*

- 23 schools have been told to wait.
 - *We are doing the existing school that need a BDA.* More are scheduled in November 2024.
 - All schools have been tested but are waiting for funding.

○ *OPAGA/ Security- Safe Schools*

- Captain Smith has a grant to purchase GEO mapping for all schools.
 - It should help with consistency regarding what school information/maps are being shared with the local jurisdictions.
- Chief Bailey is requesting a copy of the form the schools are asking their firefighters to sign when completing the walk-throughs.
 - Ken will provide a copy of the form.

Chip Johnson

Nothing to report.

Beau Gardner

○ *Fire Investigations*

- What does everyone use for a guideline to determine the loss of contents to the property?
 - Fred Link there really isn't anything since this is just an estimation and not a set amount.

Lisa Nadeau

Nothing to report.

Tom Smith

Nothing to report.

Sam Schaller

- *Wireless/Cellular Fire Alarm Communicators*
 - Would like to know if everyone requires them to be supervised by the actual fire alarm panel for loss of power, signal, battery, etc.?
 - The consensus of the group was yes.

Ajorie Bailey

Nothing to report.

Howard Bailey

Nothing to report.

Norman Medders

- *ELSS Classes – FS Same guidelines – Monday 01/29 – Thursday, 02/01*

Fred Link

- *NFPA Conference*
 - The conference will be in Orlando this summer.
 - AHJs will be offered a substantial discount so be on the lookout.
- *Target Solutions*
 - For those interested there is a new module on provided on ISO/Community Risk Reduction

Ken Mock

Nothing to report.

Eric Hill

Nothing to report.

Jefferson Humphrey

Nothing to report.

Stephen Lane

- *Fire Inspector Position*
 - The position is still open. Several people have applied that have a background in fire protection systems but do not hold a Florida Fire Inspectors Certification

Tim Brown

Nothing to report.

Projected Project Goals

Create a subpage on the Chiefs Group website.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 4:28 PM. Motion was made by Fred Link and second by Sam Schaller

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 2:00PM due to December luncheon.

VCFR Training Center located at 3889 Tiger Bay Rd. Classroom TBD